AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

By this Response, Applicant is amending Claims 1, 9, 11, 12 and cancelling Claims 3, 4, 7, 8 and 16–18 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2, 5, 6, 10, 13–15, 19 and 20 remain as originally filed or as previously presented, and new Claims 21–25 have been added.

1.   (Currently Amended)   A method for transferring data in a multi-tiered storage system, the method comprising:

performing a plurality of primary copies of data stored in a data source, wherein said performing of at least one of the plurality of primary copies further comprises

dividing [[a]] the data in the data source into at least a first portion of data and a second portion of data[[;]],

transferring the first and second portions of data from the data source to a first storage medium and a second storage medium using a first data stream and a second data stream respectively;

receiving user input indicating whether or not the first portion of data and the second portion of data should be combined;

determining if the first portion of data and the second portion of data can be combined; and

if the user input indicates that the first portion of data and the second portion of data should be combined, and if the first portion of data and the second portion of data can be combined, transferring the first and second portions of data from the first and second storage mediums to a third storage medium using a third combined data stream.

2.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the transfer from the first and second storage medium to the third storage medium is performed in chunks.

3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Cancelled)

5.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the transfer using the third data stream is performed based on a client identification of the first and second portion of data.

6.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the transfer using the third data stream is performed based on respective stream numbers of the first and second streams.

7.   (Cancelled)

8.   (Cancelled)

9.   (Currently Amended)   A system for transferring data, the system comprising:

a data source;

a media agent connected to the data source;

a management server connected to the media agent, said management server storing a storage policy;

a first storage medium, a second storage medium, and a third storage medium, wherein at least the first storage medium and the second storage medium are connected to the media agent; wherein

the data source is divided into at least a first and a second portion of data;

the media agent is configured to transfer the first and second portions of data from the data source to the first and second storage medium using a first and second data stream respectively;

the media agent is configured to access the storage policy to determine if the first and second portions of data should be combined;

the media agent is configured to determine if the first portion of data and the second portion of data are combinable; and

the media agent is configured to transfer the first and second portion of data from the first and second storage medium to the third storage medium using a third combined data stream.

10. (Original) The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the transfer from the first and second storage medium to the third storage medium is performed in chunks.

11. (Currently Amended) A recording medium in a storage system with data stored thereon, the data produced by:

copying data from a data source to a plurality of storage media, wherein said copying comprises

splitting [[a]] the data source data into at least a first and a second portion[[;]],

transferring the first portion to a first storage medium using a first stream[[;]],

transferring the second portion to a second storage medium using a second stream;

accessing user input regarding whether the first and second portions of data should be combined;

determining whether or not the first portion and the second portion are combinable into one or more data streams; and

transferring the first and second portion of data from the first and second storage medium to a third storage medium using a third combined data stream.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for transferring data in a storage system, the method comprising:

dividing a data source into at least a first and a second portion of data;

transferring the first and second portion of data from the data source to a first number of pieces of storage media;

accessing user input regarding whether the first and second portions of data should be combined;

determining if the first portion of data and the second portion of data are combinable; and

transferring the first and second portion of data from the first number of pieces of storage media to a second number of pieces of storage media, the second number being less than the first number.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, additionally comprising providing a user notification if the first portion of data and the second portion of data cannot be combined.

14.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the first portion of data is associated with a first application and the second portion of data is associated with a second application.

15.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 9, wherein the first storage medium has a faster access time than the third storage medium.

16.–18. (Cancelled)

19.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 9, further comprising an archive module configured to store at least one storage policy relating to transferring the first and second portions of data.

20.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 19, wherein the media agent is further configured to access the storage policy to determine if the first portion of data and the second portion of data are combinable.

21.   (New) The method of Claim 1, further comprising deleting the other of the plurality of primary copies of the data source data.

22.   (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the user input is stored in a storage policy.

23.   (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein the storage policy further maps the first portion of data and second portion of data to physical locations of, respectively, the first storage medium and the second storage medium.

24.   (New) The method of Claim 1, further comprising providing a graphical user interface for receiving the user input.

25.   (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein said determining if the first portion of data and the second portion of data can be combined comprises identifying the type of data in the first and second portions of data.